

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES—Friday, May 25, 2001

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mrs. BIGGERT).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
May 25, 2001.

I hereby appoint the Honorable JUDY BIGGERT to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

J. DENNIS HASTERT,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

Captain Leroy Gilbert, CHC, USN, The Chaplain of the Coast Guard, offered the following prayer:

Eternal God, before transacting the business of this country, we the people of the United States of America reverently pause to invoke Your blessings and presence upon the Representatives and the proceedings of this House today.

Lord, we are most grateful for our system of government inspired into existence by Your divine principles of humanity, service, freedom, equality and justice for all.

May Members of this governing body propose, debate, chisel and bring forth bills and ideas that are pleasing in Your sight and serve as a beacon of light to other nations of what can be accomplished by a country whose motto is "In God We Trust."

Lord, we live in a rapidly changing world and we are faced with challenges that compel our country to make changes. Nevertheless, grant us the wisdom that our first response to a changing world will not be, "How should it be changed?" but "What do we stand for that should never change," and then figure out how to change everything else.

As the decisionmakers in Congress contemplate the best course of action for the future of America, may the words of 2 Chronicles 7:14 be planted in their minds and hearts.

"If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land."

May God bless America. In Thy name we pray. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House her approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

Mr. McNULTY. Madam Speaker, pursuant to clause 1, rule I, I demand a vote on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. McNULTY. Madam Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. GREEN) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. GREEN of Wisconsin led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Monahan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed without amendment a bill of the House of the following title:

H.R. 581. An act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture to use funds appropriated for wildland fire management in the Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2001, to reimburse the United States Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service to facilitate the interagency cooperation required under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 in connection with wildland fire management.

The message also announced that the Senate has passed bills of the following titles in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 143. An act to amend the Securities Act of 1933 and the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, to reduce securities fees in excess of

those required to fund the operations of the Securities and Exchange Commission, to adjust compensation provisions for employees of the Commission, and for other purposes.

S. 378. An act to redesignate the Federal building located at 3348 South Kedzie Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, as the "Paul Simon Chicago Job Corps Center".

S. 468. An act to designate the Federal building located at 6230 Van Nuys Boulevard in Van Nuys, California, as the "James C. Corman Federal Building".

S. 757. An act to designate the Federal building and United States courthouse located at 504 West Hamilton Street in Allentown, Pennsylvania, as the "Edward N. Cahn Federal Building and United States Courthouse".

S. 774. An act to designate the Federal building and United States courthouse located at 121 West Spring Street in New Albany, Indiana, as the "Lee H. Hamilton Federal Building and United States Courthouse".

IT IS TIME FOR THE IRS TO GO

(Mr. TRAFICANT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TRAFICANT. Madam Speaker, an investigation revealed that 16,000 IRS employees illegally used their computers. The report states IRS agents spent 50 percent of their time at work on personal business. If that is not enough to service your revenue, IRS agents illegally used their computers for shopping, stock trading, gambling and pornography. Unbelievable.

Think about it. While 60 percent of taxpayer calls to the IRS go unanswered, the IRS agents were watching Marilyn Chambers do the Rotary International. Beam me up here. It is time to pass a flat 15 percent sales tax and abolish this gambling, porno-watching IRS completely.

I yield back the internal rectal service of the United States of America.

THE REAL ISSUE AT HAND IS ENERGY

(Mr. McDERMOTT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. McDERMOTT. Madam Speaker, today is a very important day. The one-party government in the United States is done. We had a vote of confidence in the other body today or yesterday and we are now back to two party government, and maybe, just maybe, we can get back to the issues the people really care about.

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.